



VVA Chapter 528

Plymouth-Canton, MI

1426 Mill St. Plymouth, MI 48170



Gary Estermyer receives the 2023 Service Officer of the Year award.

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Homefront Staff

Tom Brown - Editor & Publisher
 Don Dignan - Editor & Columnist
 John Heraghty - President & Columnist
 Bob Lamoureux - Membership & Columnist
 Rich Whipple - Chaplain & Columnist
 Nancy Dignan - Calendar
 Photos - Doug Fox

Distribution Staff

Jim Hodgson - Chief
 Ron King
 Dale Luebke

Welcome Home!

**“Never Again Will One Generation of
 Veterans Abandon Another”**

President's Corner

Greetings Comrades,

I sure hope that everyone had an enjoyable summer, as it is winding down. This means that fall and winter bring us to our big fundraiser in Downtown Plymouth at the Fall Festival and the Ice Festival. So, try to take time and volunteer to help support these events.

I'm freshly back from our National Convention, which was held in Orlando, Florida with over 800 delegates from across the United States. All delegates stood together to keep our great organization going!

Just some information since the "Pact Act" was passed.

- The VA has delivered more than \$1.85 billion in earned Pact Act benefits to Veterans and their survivors.
- The VA is delivering these benefits to Veterans at the fastest rate in our nation's history.
- They have processed 1.65 million total Veteran claims thus far in the fiscal year.

In closing, I hope to see everyone at our September 11th meeting and I hope you can help at our next couple of fundraisers by volunteering your time!

Stay safe!



John Heraghty E-5
 2nd Infantry Division 4th Sq.
 7th Cav.
 Army Nov. 1967 - June 1969





Digger's Desk



Don Dignan
D/2/16 "Rangers"
1st Inf. Div.
1967-1968



LOUNGE & AREA EVENTS

Car Shows continue on Wednesday from 5-7PM until halted by those in charge. Euchre continues on Thursday at 7:00PM, then switching to Wednesday when car shows are halted. Pinochle continues on Friday at 2:00PM.

Call in and come on down to the Post for a bite to eat and a beer. Specials vary weekly. Be wise, stay safe.

RECENTLY AND UPCOMING

The Chapter Committee regarding the dissolution of VVA National is ongoing, in an attempt to avoid surprises in the future. We had a report from the national convention delegates at the August meeting and things are a bit vague in the immediate future.

We are partnering again with E.G. Nick's in a couple of events concurrent with the Plymouth Fall Festival. Bob Dew and John Heraghty are chairing these events which will require a substantial number of volunteers. Be ready to help out if possible.

The week of September 11, the Annual Howard County All Veterans Reunion will take place. Many Chapter members will be participating. This will be my 30th consecutive year attending this event. If you are at all interested, let me know. Give it a one day try and I bet you'll be back.

The next general membership meeting will be on Monday September 11 at 7:00PM. It's a great time to be an American, Veteran and member of Chapter 528. Until Valhalla to all who have gone before us.

Cruz'n 528 Car Show 2023



Cruz'n 528 Car Show 2023
Mark Gallo and Thomas McMullen
Photo courtesy of Doug Fox



Odds & Ends

Membership

This past month, we lost two long-time members, Dave Ramsey and John "Jack" Berry. Dave moved to Traverse City some years ago, so we didn't see much of him except in Kokomo each year. Jack had serious health issues even before he joined the chapter, so he was never able to attend any meetings or functions. Our condolences go to their families. Rest in peace brothers.

There were two applications for membership this month. Charles Migyanka has joined the VVA and Eric Straus has joined our associates. Our current membership stands at 310 VVA and 85 AVVA members. Of these, we have 74 life AVVA members.

Lapsed Members: As of August 25, 2023, the following individuals have not renewed their membership: none

Dropped from Roster: none

September AVVA Renewals: none

If you have already renewed thank you. If you have not, please do so before the end of the month to keep your membership current.

National Membership Reports

The latest report shows VVA recruited 330 new members this past month and is now at 90,622. AVVA stands at 10,530. Michigan is the 5th largest state in total VVA membership and 3rd in AVVA membership. Chapter 154 in Clinton Township is the 5th largest in the country at 807. Our 310 members put us well behind the chapter in 25th place at 337. The average chapter size nationwide is 115.

VFW Golf Outing

The sign-up sheet is in the post lounge so get your foursome together and register for the outing at Hickory Creek Golf Course on

Saturday, September 23. There are still spots available for teams and single players in the outing. There is a limit of 22 teams so don't delay. Cost is \$80 per person or \$320 per team, Payment must be made by September 11. Make all checks out to VFW 6695. This year for the first time we will have hole sponsorships for \$100 per hole. Those can also be dropped off at the post.

I am still looking for donations of new golf balls or other small items I can put in the goody bags. Please get them to me ASAP.



Bob Lamoureux
Co. C, 3/47, 9th Inf. Div.
"Mobile Riverines"



**POW MIA RECOGNITION
PLAQUES OF HONOR**

Saturday, September 16 ★ Island Park
**Honoring Our Nation's Heroes
Former POWs & MIAs**

CPL Dale Williams POW for 32 months in Korea	Sgt. Robert Hesslink POW for 33 months in Korea	PVT Wilmer Norman POW for 18 months in Korea	SPEC 4 Arthur Wright MIA since 1967 and still listed as a MIA Vietnam

Sponsored by Rolling Thunder Michigan Chapter 4

Staging Motorcycles
Old Mt Pleasant State Police Post
Corner of Mission & Pickard Ave
Mount Pleasant
3:00 PM

Presenting Plaques of Honor
Michigan Vietnam Veterans
Memorial Island Park
331 N. Main St.
Mount Pleasant
4:00 PM

For more information, contact Doug Pickel at 616-255-2895 or Calvin Murphy at 231-510-7623

YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN



Chaplain's Corner

ALL FOR JESUS
From Our Daily Bread
by Cindy Hess Kasper

When Jeff was fourteen, his mom took him to see a famous singer. Like many musicians of his era, B.J. Thomas had gotten caught up in a self-destructive lifestyle while on music tours. But that was before he and his wife were introduced to Jesus. Their lives were radically changed when they became believers in Christ.

On the night of the concert, the singer began to entertain the enthusiastic crowd. But after performing a few of his well-known songs, one guy yelled out from the audience, "Hey, sing one for Jesus!" Without any hesitation, B.J. responded, "I just sang four songs for Jesus."

It's been a few decades since then, but Jeff still remembers that moment when he realized that everything we do should be for Jesus – even things that some might consider to be "nonreligious." We're sometimes tempted to divvy up the things we do in life. Read the Bible. Share our story of coming to faith. Sing a hymn. Sacred stuff. Mow the lawn. Go for a run. Sing a country song. Secular stuff. Colossians 3:16 reminds us that the message of Christ indwells us in activities like teaching, singing, and being thankful, but verse 17 goes further. It emphasizes that as God's children, "whatever (we) do, whether in word or deed, we do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus." We do it all for Him!

Chaplain's Corner: Prayers go out to the families of long-time members Dave Ramsey and Jack Berry, who passed away this month. Prayers also go to Gordie and Barb Bardeleben, whose daughter just passed away. The last Joy Road Clean-Up was on June 23. Unfortunately, it was raining "cats and dogs", so we couldn't pick up. Our next Joy Road Clean Up will be Friday, September 29, at 9:15. VVA member Hank (Henry) Eichner and his wife are moving to Florida. Hank helped a few times on our Joy Road Clean-Up. I have his cell number if anyone would like to keep tags with him. Rick and Jan Ciaramitaro are not

getting out very often, so give them a call and check up with them. Their cell is 248-345-2677.



Rich Whipple
Chaplain (Certified)
(A sinner saved by God's Grace)
Cell: 734-751-2992
rekjwhipple@yahoo.com
HHC/2/503rd Infantry
173rd Airborne Brigade
1968 - 1969



VVA 2023 National Convention Orlando



The 528 crew in Orlando at the 21st biannual National VVA Convention. **Front Row:** Bob Dew, Rich Whipple and Al Sneath. **Back Row:** Terry Wells, Marc Gallo, Gary Estermyer and John Heraghty.



Bruce Benyo, Congresswoman Debbie Dingel and John Heraghty. Photo courtesy of Doug Fox



September 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 PINOCHLE 2:00	2
3	4 LABOR DAY	5 AUX MEET 6:30	6 CAR SHOW 5-7	7 EUCHRE 7:00	8 PINOCHLE 2:00 PLYMOUTH FALL FEST	9 PLYMOUTH FALL FEST
10 PLYMOUTH FALL FEST	11 GOLF VVA MEET 7:00	12 VFW MEET 7:00	13 CAR SHOW 5-7	14 EUCHRE 7:00 KOKOMO	15 PINOCHLE 2:00 KOKOMO	16 KOKOMO
17 KOKOMO	18 GOLF	19 HOUSE COMM MEET 7:00	20 CAR SHOW 5-7	21 EUCHRE 7:00	22 PINOCHLE 2:00	23 VFW GOLF OUTING
24	25 GOLF	26 VVA MEET 7:00	27 CAR SHOW 5-7	28 EUCHRE 7:00	29 PINOCHLE 2:00	30



September Birthdays

David Baringer, Roger Bebow, Daniel Bowe, Leon Carter, Kenneth Currie, Timothy Dunatchik, Thomas Forster, Pete Glasgow, James Grant, David Henwood, John Heraghty, Stewart Israel, Ron Little, Victor Lukasiak, Timothy Moore, Charles Neal, Dave Nowicki, Don Petrere, Al Sneath, Robert Somerville, John Spencer

**Calendar by
Nancy Dignan**



VVA National General Election Results

August 11, 2023

Officers

Office	Candidate
President	John (Jack) McManus
Vice President	Tom Burke
Secretary	Bill Meeks
Treasurer	Wayne Reynolds-AL Linda Schwartz-CT

	Regional
Region 1	Lantini, Justin - MA
Region 2	Wilkinson, Ted - NY
Region 3	Nance, Rossie - NC
Region 4	Davis, Spence - GA
Region 5	Riling, John - MI *
Region 6	Margowski, John - WI
Region 7	Courville, Terry - LA
Region 8	Ivarra, Francisco - WA
Region 9	Southern, Dick - CA
	TOTALS



National Board of Directors

	Candidate
1	Barickman, Dottie - IA
2	Hobbs, Charlie - TN
3	Gomez, Gumersindo - MA
4	Montgomery, Charlie - VA
* 5	Wilson, Sandie - MI
6	Stenvold, Dan - ND
7	Howland, Dennis - UT
8	Lindbeck, Richard W- WI
9	Williams, Steve - VA
10	Holybee, Ken - CA
11	Foote, Ned - NY

**Vietnam War Unaccounted For Personnel
(Michigan - as of January 2023)**

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RANK	NAME	MILITARY SERVICE	COUNTRY OF LOSS	INCIDENT DATE	HOME OF RECORD	LOCATION ON VN MEMORIAL
SFC	Allard, Richard Michael	USA	SVN	08/24/67	Chesaning MI	Panel 25E Line 36
COL	Anderson, Warren Leroy	USAF	NVN	04/26/66	Camden MI	Panel 6E Line 135
CDR	Austin, Ellis Ernest	USN	NVN	04/21/66	Vermontville MI	Panel 6E Line 125
SGT	Beckwith, Harry Medford III	USA	SVN	03/24/71	Flint MI	Panel 4W Line 72
CW2	Boltze, Bruce Edward	USMC	SVN	10/06/72	Flint MI	Panel 1W Line 80
SFC	Buckley, Louis Jr	USA	SVN	05/21/66	Detroit MI	Panel 7E Line 94
MAJ	Carroll, Patrick Henry	USAF	LAOS	11/02/69	Allen Park MI	Panel 16W Line 19
LCDR	Chapman, Rodney Max	USN	NVN	02/18/69	Alpena MI	Panel 32W Line 53
SSG	Cline, Curtis Roy	USA	SVN	09/18/69	Burlington MI	Panel 18W Line 108
MAJ	Crossman, Gregory John	USAF	NVN	04/25/68	Sturgis MI	Panel 52E Line 4
SP4	Cudlike, Charles Joseph	USA	SVN	05/18/69	Detroit MI	Panel 24W Line 39
SMSGT	Dailey, Douglas Vincent	USAF	LAOS	12/13/68	Waterford MI	Panel 36W Line 14
SSG	Dix, Craig Mitchell	USA	CAMB	03/17/71	Livonia MI	Panel 4W Line 54
MAJ	Feneley, Francis James	USAF	NVN	05/11/66	Curtis MI	Panel 7E Line 48
SSG	Gauthier, Dennis Lee	USA	SVN	10/31/69	Rochester MI	Panel 16W Line 8
CPL	Green, Larry Edward	USMC	SVN	03/26/68	Mt Morris MI	Panel 46E Line 42
CDR	Greiling, David Scott	USN	NVN	07/24/68	Hillsdale MI	Panel 51W Line 49
SFC	Groth, Wade Lawrence	USA	SVN	02/12/68	Greenville MI	Panel 39E Line 5
CMSGT	Hill, Robert LaVerne	USAF	NVN	10/18/66	Detroit MI	Panel 11E Line 87
LTJG	Holman, Gerald Allan	USN	NVN	12/14/66	Northville MI	Panel 13E Line 44
MAJ	Jarvis, Jeremy Michael	USAF	NVN	07/25/67	Warren MI	Panel 23E Line 119
AMS1	Jerome, Stanley Milton	USN	NVN	02/18/69	Detroit MI	Panel 32W Line 56
LTC	Johnson, Bruce Gardner	USA	SVN	06/10/65	Harbor Beach MI	Panel 2E Line 5
COL	King, Donald Lewis	USAF	NVN	05/14/66	Muskegon MI	Panel 7E Line 59
SFC	Klimo, James Robert	USA	SVN	11/04/69	Muskegon MI	Panel 16W Line 30
LT	Klugg, Joseph Russell	USN	NVN	11/14/70	Okemos MI	Panel 6W Line 60
LCPL	Kool, James Willard	USMC	SVN	06/11/67	Fruitport MI	Panel 21E Line 90
CW2	Leonard, Marvin Maurice	USA	LAOS	02/15/71	Grand Rapids MI	Panel 5W Line 107
LT	Marvin, Robert Clarence	USN	NVN	02/14/67	Dexter MI	Panel 15E Line 28
MAJ	Massucci, Martin John	USAF	NVN	10/01/65	Royal Oak MI	Panel 2E Line 101
SP5	May, Michael Frederic	USA	CAMB	03/02/69	Vassar MI	Panel 30W Line 14
SSG	Nelson, James Raymond	USA	SVN	06/11/67	Ludington MI	Panel 21E Line 91
WO1	Paul, James Lee	USA	SVN	02/05/71	Riverview MI	Panel 5W Line 79
CW2	Perry, Otha Lee	USA	SVN	12/14/71	Detroit MI	Panel 2W Line 88
CW3	Riggs, Thomas Frederick	USA	SVN	06/11/67	Farmington MI	Panel 21E Line 92
SFC	Roberts, Richard Dean	USA	SVN	03/25/69	Lansing MI	Panel 28W Line 40
PFC	Seablom, Earl Francis	USA	SVN	07/18/68	Ishpeming MI	Panel 51W Line 8
CAPT	Stroven, William Harry	USAF	NVN	10/28/68	Fremont MI	Panel 40W Line 51
SSG	Stuifbergen, Gene Paul	USAF	CAMB	11/27/68	Augusta MI	Panel 38W Line 79
LCDR	Tromp, William Leslie	USN	NVN	04/17/66	Fennville MI	Panel 6E Line 120
COL	Tyler, George Edward	USAF	NVN	10/24/68	Royal Oak MI	Panel 40W Line 31
CAPT	Walker, Kenneth Earl	USAF	SVN	10/02/64	Lansing MI	Panel 1E Line 64
SFC	Wallace, Michael John	USA	SVN	04/19/68	Ann Arbor MI	Panel 51E Line 2
COL	Welch, Robert John	USAF	NVN	01/16/67	Detroit MI	Panel 14E Line 41
CDR	Woloszyk, Donald Joseph	USN	NVN	03/01/66	Alpena MI	Panel 5E Line 94
LCDR	Worcester, John Bowers	USN	NVN	10/19/65	Big Rapids MI	Panel 2E Line 126
MAJ	Wozniak, Frederick Joseph	USAF	NVN	01/17/67	Alpena MI	Panel 14E Line 46
SP4	Wright, Arthur	USA	SVN	02/21/67	Lansing MI	Panel 15E Line 72
	TOTAL: 48					
	20 USA					
	15 USAF					
	3 USMC					
	10 USN					



Chapter 528 Homefront

September 2023



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Chapter Officers

President	John Heraghty	734-845-7444
1st Vice President	Bob Dew	734-968-3267
2nd Vice President	Pete Glasgow	734-454-9663
Secretary	Ron King	734-679-6424
Treasurer	John Fleming	734-421-0149

Board of Directors

Darrell Bazman	734-207-3197	Don Petrere	734-595-1422
Don Dignan	734-525-0157	Al Sneath	734-377-5337
Gene Spurgess	248-887-621	Tom Fedewa	734-404-6598
Tom McMullen	734-658-6070	Jerry Thomason	734-895-5257

Committees

A.O./Health Care	Bob Dew	734-421-1805
Agent Orange Events	Bob Dew	734-421-1805
AVVA Representative	Bryan Bentley	734-604-6066
By-Laws	Jim Hodgson	734-416-515
Chaplain	Rich Whipple	734-751-299
Chapter Historian		
Fundraising	Bob Dew	734-421-1805
Homeless Veterans	John Fleming	734-421-0149
Membership	Bob Lamoureux	734-397-8389

Homefront Newsletter

Editor & Publisher	Tom Brown	313-320-5775
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	Ron King	734-679-6424
	Dale Luebke	248-403-4244
Product Sales	Rick Demeester	248-486-9981
POW/MIA		
Public Affairs	Don Dignan	734-525-0157
Sergeant-at-Arms	John Fleming	734-525-04560
State Delegate	Dennis Bielskis	248-486-0001
State A. Delegate	Joe Tebor	734-502-8087
State A. Delegate	John Spencer	734-397-8975
VAVS Deputy	Ron King	734-454-4522
Vietnam War 50th Com.	Ron King	734-454-4522
Website	Bob Dew	734-968-3267
	Bryan Bentley	734-604-6066
	John Spencer	734-716-0619
	Dennis Bielskis	248-767-1654
	Tom Brown	313-320-5775

Chapter 528 VVA Service Officer (VSO)

Richard LeGault 734-800-9399
RLEGAULT.VSO@outlook.com

Veterans Crisis Centers

Veterans Center	313-381-1370
Dearborn Crisis Center	313-584-7800
VA Medical Center Detroit	313-576-1000
VA Ann Arbor Health Care System	734-769-7100

Editor's Note and Disclaimer

Articles, flyers, calendar, event dates and photos must be submitted by the 25th of the month in order to be considered for publication. Send the article, flyer or photo to Tom Brown 17730 Snow Ave Dearborn, MI 48124 or email Tom at tombrown1949@gmail.com. Except as otherwise noted, all published articles become the property of VVA Chapter 528 and may not be reprinted without the Chapter's permission. Chapter 528 reserves the right to edit for space. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Chapter, the editors, or the National VVA. **Mayflower Lt. Gamble VFW Post 6695 (734-459-6700).**

Chapter 528 Website: www.vva528.org

Chapter 528 Travel Site www.travelvva528.com

Advertising Rates: 1 year \$60; 6 mos. \$45; 1 issue \$15

Our Service Photos

VVA Chapter 528 has 168 VVA members' service photos and 3 AVVA members' service photos displayed on our website and in our display case at the Post. I'm sure most members have a photo of themselves laying around somewhere. When you find your photo you can either mail it to Tom Brown @ 17730 Snow Ave. Dearborn, MI 48124, scan it and send it to: tombrown1949@gmail.com as a jpg or jpeg, bring it to our general membership meetings and give it to Tom or Dean Bell or bring it to the VFW. Be sure to include your name, branch of service and the year the photo was taken. Don Petrere will place the copied service photo in our display case.



Tom Brown, Editor/Publisher
2nd Missile Battalion
44th Artillery Pershing
Ft. Sill, OK 1st year
HHD III Corps
Ft. Sill, OK 2nd year



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Chapter 528 Homefront

Vietnam Veterans of America



September 2023



IO

VVA membership is open to U.S. armed forces veterans who served on active duty (for other than training purposes) in the Republic of Vietnam between November 1, 1955 and May 7, 1975, or in any duty location between August 5, 1964 and May 7, 1975

Name _____ email _____

Phone _____

Present Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Branch of Service _____

Date of Birth _____ Today's Date _____

\$50.00 Lifetime Membership Enclosed _____

_____ I am a Vietnam Era Veteran and would like to be a member. Enclosed is a copy of my DD 214 Form. One must have served a minimum of 180 days of active service.

_____ I am not a Vietnam Era Veteran, but would like to be an Associate Member

One may become an Associate Member (AVVA). _____ 1 year (\$20), _____ 3 year (\$50), _____ Life membership ages 59 and under (\$175), _____ 60 and above (\$100). When purchasing a life membership proof of age must also be submitted. The easiest form of proof is a copy of your driver's license. There is one new AVVA option available. Current VVA members can support the AVVA by purchasing a life membership in AVVA for only \$50.

Return this form to:
Vietnam Veterans of America
Plymouth/Canton Chapter 528
P.O. Box 6319
Plymouth, MI 48170-0473



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Vietnam Veterans of America
Homefront
Plymouth-Canton Chapter 528
P.O. Box 6319
Plymouth MI 48170-0473